



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

promised the assistance of another medical officer, must devote much of his time to the investigation of all the conditions which exist here.

Very respectfully,

W. F. BRUNNER,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Comparative statistics of the mortality of the city of Habana for the weeks ended August 5, August 12, August 19, August 26, September 2, and September 9, 1897.

Disease.	Week ended—					
	Aug. 5.	Aug. 12.	Aug. 19.	Aug. 26.	Sept. 2.	Sept. 9
Yellow fever.....	28	23	27	31	27	15
Enteric fever.....	21	20	22	24	16	17
Pernicious fever.	14	13	8	17	13	12
Paludal fever.....	2	7	7	6	6	3
Dysentery.....	23	39	24	34	22	34
Enteritis.....	42	36	32	30	36	55
Smallpox.....	0	0	0	1	2	0
Glanders.....	1	1	0	0	2	0
Diphtheria.....	1	1	0	1	0	0
Pneumonia.....	3	14	11	7	4	2
Tuberculosis.....	38	31	46	37	43	41
From all causes.....	306	317	342	332	302	326
Annual ratio per 1,000.....	79.56	82.42	88.90	87.88	78.52	84.76

Sanitary report from Santiago.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, *September 4, 1897.*

SIR: I have the honor of submitting the following report on the sanitary condition of Santiago de Cuba for the week ended September 4:

Eighty-one deaths have been reported, of which 23 were from yellow fever, 3 from dysentery, 7 from tuberculosis, 10 from pernicious, 7 from remittent fevers, 5 from enteritis; the rest from common diseases of noncontagious character. Yellow fever is slowly increasing, and the cases now under treatment generally take a malignant form, ending in death. Dropsy from anemia is very common just now, as food is scarce and high in price, and almost beyond the means of the poorer classes. Over 2,000 people live on a five-cent dinner fare provided by charity kitchens, and beggars are as thick in the streets as the falling leaves are in the woods.

Respectfully,

Dr. H. S. CAMINERO,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

SWITZERLAND.

An antidote for snake bites.

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND, *July 15, 1897.*

From the weekly Scotchman I copy the following:

At a meeting of the Edinburgh Royal Society, Prof. T. R. Fraser read a paper on "The antivenomous properties of the bile of serpents and other animals, and an explanation of the insusceptibility of animals to the poisonous action of venom introduced into the stomach."

In his paper Professor Fraser described the results of experiments which he had conducted with the bile of the African cobra, the puff

adder, the rattlesnake, and the grass snake, tested against the venom of the African and the Indian cobra by subcutaneous injection in the case of animals like the rabbit. The experiment showed that the bile of venomous serpents was able, when mixed with the venom of serpents, to prevent lethal doses of the latter from producing death; and that the bile was indeed so powerful an agent that a quantity actually smaller than the quantity of venom might be sufficient for the purpose. Although when in the alimentary canal bile was nontoxic, the bile salts and bile pigments acted as poisons when injected under the skin or into a blood vessel. It was improbable, therefore, that the bile in its natural form could be used as an antidote, except by stomach administration, or by application to the wound caused by a snake bite. The successful result of an attempt to isolate its antidotal constituent had, however, rendered it possible to test the therapeutic value of this constituent when it was introduced into the blood of an animal which had already received a lethal dose of venom.

An experiment made with a small quantity of puff adder bile, taken in conjunction with a considerable number of "in vitro" experiments, that had been made, not only supplied strong confirmation of the evidence that bile was able to render serpent's venom inert, but also suggested that from bile there might be produced an antidote for snake poisoning which, in its antidotal value, was at least equal to the most powerful antivenene, or antivenomous serum as yet obtained from the blood of immunised animals.

EUGENE GERMAUT,
United States Consul.

To the DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D. C.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.

AUSTRALIA—*Sydney*.—Month of June, 1897. Population, 410,000. Total deaths, 435, including diphtheria, 5; enteric fever, 11, and phthisis pulmonalis, 38.

BAHAMAS—*Dunmore Town*.—Two weeks ended August 27, 1897. Population, 1,472. No deaths.

Governors Harbor.—Two weeks ended August 28, 1897. Estimated population, 1,500. No deaths.

Green Turtle Cay—Abaco.—Two weeks ended August 26, 1897. Estimated population, 3,900. No deaths.

Nassau.—Two weeks ended August 31, 1897. Estimated population, 11,000. Deaths not reported.

CHILE—*Antofagasta*.—Month of July, 1897. Estimated population, 14,000. Total deaths, 29, including phthisis pulmonalis, 5.

FRANCE—*Nice*.—Month of July, 1897. Population, 108,227. Total deaths, 168, including diphtheria, 1; enteric fever, 5, and phthisis pulmonalis, 15.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales*.—The deaths registered in 33 great towns in England and Wales during the week ended August 28 correspond to an annual rate of 24.6 a thousand of the aggregate popu-